

PRELUDE

*Largo, from Xerxes*

G.F. Handel

Hermann Berndt, cello & Lynne Woodman, piano

INVITATION

One: Gracious God,

**Many: We come to thank You for all the ways you guide us and sustain us.**

One: Gracious God,

**Many: We come to ask forgiveness for when we fail to put our faith in You.**

One: Gracious God,

**Many: We come to take our place in the worshipping community. Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

*We Praise You, O God*

#420

**We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;**

**In grateful devotion out tribute we bring.**

**We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;**

**We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.**

**We worship You, God of our mothers and fathers;**

**Through life's storm and tempest our guide You have been.**

**When perils o'er take us, You never will forsake us,**

**And with Your help, O God, in life's struggles we win.**

**With voices united our praises we offer,**

**And gladly our song of thanksgiving we raise.**

**Our sins now confessing, we pray for Your blessing;**

**To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!**

OPENING PRAYER

ONE: For the darkness of waiting  
Of not knowing what is to come  
Of staying ready and quiet and attentive  
We praise You, O God

**MANY: For the darkness and the light are both alike to You.**

ONE: For the darkness of staying silent  
For the terror of having nothing to say  
And for the greater terror  
Of needing to say nothing  
We praise You O God

**MANY: For the darkness and the light are both alike to You.**

ONE: For the darkness of loving  
In which it is safe to surrender  
To let go of our self-protection  
And to stop holding back our desire  
We praise You O God

**MANY: For the darkness and the light are both alike to You.**

**ONE:** For the darkness of choosing  
When You give us the moment  
To speak, and act, and change  
And we cannot know what we have set in motion  
But we still have to take the risk  
We praise You O God

**MANY: For the darkness and the light are both alike to You.**

**ONE:** For the darkness of hoping  
In a world which longs for You  
For the wrestling and the laboring of all creation  
For wholeness and justice and freedom  
We praise You O God

**MANY: For the darkness and the light are both alike to You. Amen.**

#### ENGAGING SCRIPTURE

John 1:43-51

<sup>43</sup> The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." <sup>44</sup> Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup> Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." <sup>46</sup> Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." <sup>47</sup> When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of Him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" <sup>48</sup> Nathanael asked Him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." <sup>49</sup> Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" <sup>50</sup> Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." <sup>51</sup> And He said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

SERMON

*Come and See!*

Dr. Christine Hoffman

SERMON HYMN

*The Summons*

**Will you come and follow Me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let My love be shown? Will you let My name be known,  
Will you let My life be grown in you and you in Me?**

**Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let Me answer prayer in you and you in Me?**

**Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,  
And admit to what I mean in you and you in Me?**

**Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,  
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in Me?  
Lord, Your summons echoes true when You but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow You and never be the same.  
In Your company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in You and You in me.**

#### LORD'S PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

#### CLOSING HYMN

*I Want Jesus to Go with Me*

#490

**I want Jesus to go with me; I want Jesus to go with me;  
All along my pilgrim journey, oh, I want Jesus to go with me.  
In my trials, oh comfort me; In my trials, oh comfort me;  
When my heart is almost breaking, oh, I want Jesus to comfort me.  
When I'm in trouble, oh stay with me; When I'm in trouble, oh stay with me;  
When my head is bowed in sorrow, oh, I want Jesus to stay with me.**

#### BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE

*Sicilienne*

Gabriel Faure

Hermann Berndt, cello & Lynne Woodman, piano

#### WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

USHERS: Drue Murray, Lois Watson

LITURGIST: Warren Bacon

SONG LEADER: Susan Raines

*Our guest cellist this morning is **Hermann Berndt**, a friend of Lynne Woodman. He came to a service at our church last year, and asked to play for us today to thank us for that experience. He divides his time between Vienna, Austria, where he teaches and plays in an orchestra there, and Sarasota, where he studies with Natalie Helm, principal cello of the Sarasota Orchestra, and plays chamber music with friends.*